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(b) The imposers of the High Court form part of the current sections of the Government Press.

(c) No.

(d) The question does not arise.

Labour

Extension of the activities of the Labour Department.

*450 Q.—Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to his speech on 2nd March 1928—

(a) whether the details of the scheme proposed by the Labour Commissioner (Mr. Slater) are now available for the information of this House;

(b) whether the scheme has been approved by the Government;

(c) whether the proposed scheme gives scope for the extension of the activities of the Labour Department to new districts; and

(d) if not, whether the Government will consider the proposals made by the existing depressed classes associations in the mufassal to extend the Labour Department's activities to new districts?

A.—(a) & (b) The scheme is under the consideration of Government and is not yet ripe for being placed before the Legislative Council.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"May I know how long it will take Government to place the scheme before this House?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"It will be placed before the House in connexion with the next Budget."

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Is the hon. the Home Member aware that a large amount was surrendered last year, for want of re-organization of the Labour department?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"On account of that we are having the scheme."

Land Revenue

Jamabandi allowance to village menials of Gudiyattam taluk for fasli 1336.

*451 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that jamabandi allowance for fasli 1336 to the village menials of Gudiyattam taluk has not been disbursed to them as yet; and if so, why; and

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the menials come from the depressed classes and are very poor?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government are not aware whether the case is as suggested. The Board of Revenue has been asked to report.

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Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"May I know, whether in view of the fact that an enormous amount of penal interest was collected on trivial sums, the Government would consider the desirability of changing the present system of charging penal interest on takkavi loans ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I think I have said in another connexion that the rules regarding the levy of penal interest are under revision."

Loans

Penal interest on arrears of takkavi instalments in Anantapur district.

* 452 Q.—Mr. C. OBI REDDI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) in how many cases, in each of the years 1925–26, 1926–27 and 1927–28 in the district of Anantapur penal interest was levied under the Takkavi Loans Act for arrears of takkavi instalments that were due ;

(b) what was the amount of arrears due in each of such cases and what was the amount of penal interest levied in each of such cases ; and

(c) whether any previous intimation was given to the borrowers in each of the above cases as to the dates on which their instalments fell due ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A report has been called for.

Revenue Establishments

Appointment of Muslims as Deputy Tahsildars in Salem and other districts.

* 453 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of deputy tahsildars appointed during the preceding three years in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot and Chingleput, and the proportion of Muslims to non-Muslims ;

(b) if in any of these districts, Muhammadans have not been appointed as deputy tahsildars during the preceding three years, whether it was due to want of qualified Muhammadans, and if so, to furnish a list corrected up to 1st April 1928 of the Muhammadan public servants with their respective qualifications in those districts ;

(c) whether it is a fact that a confidential circular has been issued to Collectors recently, against the appointment of persons as deputy tahsildars who are not graduates, and if so, whether exceptions have been made in the case of the backward communities ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that in view of the above circular, the lists of deputy tahsildars submitted this year to the Board of Revenue have been returned unapproved to the Collectors concerned ?

A.—(a) & (b) Information regarding the number of deputy tahsildars appointed during the last three years and the proportion of Muslims to non-Muslims may be gathered from the lists of Revenue Establishments which are available for reference in the Secretariat Library.

(c) & (d) No such circular has been issued either by Government or by the Board of Revenue.